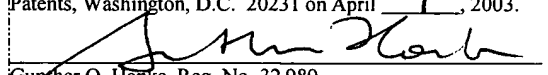


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Gunther O. Hanke, Reg. No. 32,989



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Inventors: Schaible et al.

Serial No. 09/458,354

Filed: December 9, 1999

For: **CATHETER WITH A
TRANSPARENT SHAFT**

Examiner: Michael M. Thompson

Group Art Unit: 3763

Client ID/Matter No. ACSC 60419 (1335P)

Express Mail No.: EV 131072827 US

April 7, 2003

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Box CPA
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request a three month extension for filing a reply in the above-identified application. Applicants' Request for Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) Request Transmittal and Preliminary Amendment are submitted herewith. The requisite fee of \$930.00 pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.136(a) is enclosed herewith.

Please charge any additional fee or credit any over-payment to our Deposit Account No. 06-2425. **A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.**

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

04/09/2003 CV0111 00000090 09458354

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930.00 OP

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